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(21) International Application Number: PCT/NL97/00374 (22) International Filing Date: 1 July 1997 (01.07.97) (30) Priority Data: 96201821.4 1 July 1996 (01.07.96) EP (34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed: GB et al. 60/031,671 22 November 1996 (22.11.96) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): UNIVER- SITEIT UTRECHT [NL/NL]; Sorbonnelaan 16, NL-3584 CA Utrecht (NL). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HENNINK, Wilhelmus, Everhardus [NL/NL]; Zuidplasmaan 120, NL-2743 CZ Waddinxveen (NL). VAN DIJK-WOLTHUIS, Wendel- moed, Nelletha, Eleonora [NL/NL]; Van Swietenstraat 9, NL-2334 EA Leiden (NL). (74) Agent: SMULDERS, Th., A., H., J.; Vereenigde Octrooibu- reaux, Nieuwe Parklaan 97, NL-2587 BN The Hague (NL).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  Published With international search report.
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(57) Abstract  The present invention relates to a biodegradable hydrogel comprising bonds which are hydrolysable under physiological conditions. More particularly, the hydrogel consists of two interpenetrating polymer networks interconnected to one another through hydrolysable spacers. In addition, the invention relates to a method for the preparation of a hydrogel, wherein macromolecules, e.g. polymers, which contain bonds which are hydrolysable under physiological conditions, are cross-linked in an aqueous solution.		

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